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ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 TEDE-00 ADS-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /001W
-----E87328 311647Z /49

O 311607Z AUG 95
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1278

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 002834

STADIS//////////

AF ONLY
E.O. 12356: DECL:20 YEARS
TAGS: PGOV, RW
SUBJECT: FURTHER THOUGHTS ON THE RESHUFFLE

REF: BOGOSION/WHALEY TELCON 31 AUGUST

1. C -- ENTIRE TEXT.
2. REF TELCON ASKED FOR OUR BEST THOUGHTS, BUT QUICK.
HERE THEY ARE:

--KIGALI'S COUNTRY TEAM IS NOT/NOT DISMAYED BY THE
CABINET CHANGES. IN FACT WE ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT THE NEW
GOVERNMENT WILL QUICKLY IMPLEMENT OBJECTIVES WE SHARE.

--WE SHOULD NOT BE WEDDED TO PERSONALITIES, AND THE
FORMER GOVERNMENT HAD REACHED GRIDLOCK. UNDER THESE
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 14 MAY 2007 200103014

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CIRCUMSTANCES A CABINET SHUFFLE IS NORMAL, AND WAS
HANDLED STRICTLY ACCORDING TO THE FUNDAMENTAL LAW.

--THERE ARE NO SHOCKS IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT,
PERSONALITIES COME FROM THE SAME PARTIES, THE ETHNIC
RATIO HOLDS AND THE TEAM IS COMPETENT.

--THE NEW PM IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS REITERATED THE
GOVERNMENT PROGRAM THAT WAS FIRST ANNOUNCED FOURTEEN
MONTHS AGO. HE SAYS THAT HE PLANS TO MOVE AHEAD QUICKLY
ON THOSE GOALS.

--PARTIES HAVE CANVASSED, NOMINATED THEIR MINISTERS AND
COME UP WITH VALID CANDIDATES IN LINE WITH PROCEDURES OF
THE FUNDAMENTAL LAW.

--WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF A MOSLEM THE NEW GOR HAS MORE
DIVERSITY THAN THE OLD ONE.

--WE SHOULD JUDGE THEM ON WHAT THEY DO, NOT/NOT WHAT THE
NGO COMMUNITY FEARS THEY MIGHT DO.

AMNESTY AND JUSTICE

--IT IS TOO SOON TO PUSH AMNESTY. AMNESTY ALSO PUTS US
IN AN AWKWARD POSITION: WE HAVE BEEN DENOUNCING IMPUNITY.
WE AND THE UN HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THAT INDIVIDUALS WHO
COMMIT CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY WILL BE JUDGED AS
INDIVIDUALS.

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-- HOWEVER WE KNOW THEY ARE INTERESTED IN FINDING A WAY
TO PARDON GENOCIDE PERPETRATORS IN EXCHANGE FOR
CONFESSIONS OR TO MAKE A TRIAGE WHICH WOULD MAKE THE
LARGEST GROUP OF SUSPECTS ELIGIBLE FOR PARDON UNDER A
MASS JUDGEMENT THAT THEY KILLED UNDER COERCION.

--WE SHOULD ASK THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT WHAT
THEIR SPECIFIC PLANS ARE. TELL THEM WE CANNOT SUPPORT
THEM UNLESS WE KNOW WHAT THEY PLAN TO DO.

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--WE SHOULD ACCEPT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME OF THE DELAY IN JUSTICE BY HAVING OVERLOADED THE GOR'S ABILITY TO DEAL WITH ALL OUR PROGRAMS AND BY BEING SLOW IN DELIVERING ON THEM.

REFUGEES

--THE FAZ HAS SHOWN THAT REFUGEES CAN COME BACK TO RWANDA SAFELY.

--WE SHOULD MAKE A FULL-COURT PRESS AMONG ALL INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND NGOS FOR A COORDINATED EFFORT TO GET THE REFUGEES BACK SAFELY BY 31 NOVEMBER, A MONTH BEFORE KENGO'S DEADLINE. FOR INSTANCE, GET MONITORS IN EACH COMMUNE. LAUNCH A SERIOUS CAMPAIGN IN THE CAMPS TO PERSUADE REFUGEES TO COME HOME. SET DEADLINES. HOLD AGENCIES ACCOUNTABLE. THIS IS ALSO A WISE USE OF HUMANITARIAN AID FUNDS: EVERY REFUGEE WHO COMES HOME NOW COSTS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY LESS SOMEWHERE DOWN THE

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ROAD.

--WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE NEW GOR TO PUT REFUGEES, PRISONS, JUSTICE FIRST. LET THEM KNOW THAT WE WILL HELP IF WE AGREE WITH THEIR APPROACH, OTHERWISE WE WILL NOT.

RECOMMENDATION

--WE RECOMMEND THAT RWANDA COORDINATOR BOGOSIAN COME TO KIGALI AND TALK FACE TO FACE, FRANKLY, WITH BIZIMUNGU, KAGAME, AND THE NEW PM ABOUT OUR CONCERNS AND HEAR WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY. RAWSON

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